

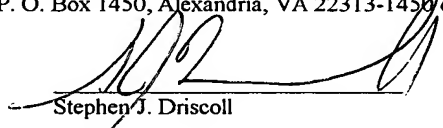


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: **Hengelmolen et al.**
Application No.: **10/055,611** Examiner: **Nguyen, C. N.**
Filed: **October 29, 2001** Art Unit: **2831**
For: **Ferrule**
Attorney Docket No. **17648 A**

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence, along with any other papers indicated as being enclosed, is being deposited with the United States Postal Services, as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Extension, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on April 26, 2004


Stephen J. Driscoll

Commissioner For Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR CORRECTED FILING RECEIPT

Sir:

Enclosed are copies of an original Official Filing Receipt and Notice to File Missing Parts issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office for the above-captioned application on February 27, 2002, both of which documents indicate a filing date of October 29, 2001 for the instant application. Also enclosed are copies of a Notice of Incomplete Reply mailed August 22, 2002, and an Updated Filing Receipt mailed October 21, 2002, from the USPTO.

There is an error in the "Filing Date" section of the Updated Filing Receipt. Namely, the filing date on the Updated Filing Receipt is listed incorrectly as September 3, 2002, instead of the October 29, 2001 date accorded to the instant application (see the original Official Filing Receipt).

Applicants note that the application was originally filed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.53(b) on October 29, 2001, and such filing date was properly accorded to the

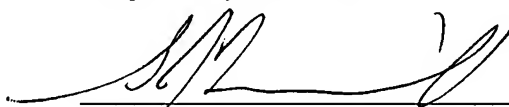
application via the original Filing Receipt. While the Notice to File Missing Parts mailed with the original Filing Receipt indicated that the filed application contained certain informalities, it is well known that upon timely correction of such informalities, an application is given the filing date on which the original informal papers were filed. (*See*, for example, MPEP section 506, "INFORMAL APPLICATIONS").

Applicants timely corrected the informalities indicated in the Notice to File Missing Parts, and subsequent Notice of Incomplete Reply, on September 3, 2002 (with an appropriate petition to extend time and the fees associated therewith). Accordingly, the correct filing date for the instant application is October 29, 2001.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request the issuance of a Corrected Filing Receipt listing the Filing Date as October 29, 2001.

Respectfully submitted

Dated: April 26, 2004



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